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Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Ahmed **Amaziane** (Morocco)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 94 (see A/55/581, para. 2). Action on sub-item (e) was taken at the 27th and 41st meetings, on 26 October and 6 December 2000. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/55/SR.27 and 41).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions A/C.2/55/L.12 and A/C.2/55/L.53)

2. At the 27th meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Scope to be covered by the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/55/L.12), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda, resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in seven parts, under the symbol A/55/581 and Add.1-6.

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Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), and resolution 53/180 of 15 December 1998, in which it decided that its special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Conference would be held in June 2001 and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the preparatory committee for the special session,

"*Taking into account* its resolutions 54/208 of 22 December 1999 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human 1the Conference,

"*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 17/1 of 14 May 1999 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and 17/14 of 14 May 1999 on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the outcome of the Conference,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the preparatory committee for the special session on its first substantive session,

"*Also taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,

"I. Arrangements regarding participation of Habitat Agenda partners in the special session

"1. *Decides* that representatives of Habitat Agenda partners shall make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the special session for an overall review and implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

"2. *Also decides* that given the availability of time, a limited number of Habitat Agenda partners may also make statements in the debate in the plenary of the special session. The President of the General Assembly is requested to present the list of selected Habitat Agenda partners to the Member States in a timely manner for approval. The President of the General Assembly is also requested to ensure that such selection is made on an equal and transparent basis, taking into account the geographical representation and diversity of Habitat Agenda partners;

"3. *Further decides* that arrangements concerning the accreditation and participation of Habitat Agenda partners in the special session shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

"II. Arrangements regarding accreditation of Habitat Agenda partners to the special session

"1. *Decides* that the accreditation to the special session shall be open to:

"(a) Those Habitat Agenda partners that were accredited to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

"(b) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, with the exception of those non-governmental organizations whose application for consultative status with the Council has been rejected or whose consultative status with the Council has been withdrawn or suspended;

"2. *Also decides* that accreditation of other interested and relevant Habitat Agenda partners which were not accredited to the Habitat II Conference should be examined by the preparatory committee, provided that they submit their application for accreditation to the committee composed of the bureau of the preparatory committee and the Secretariat by 9 February 2001. The application should contain the following information:

"(a) The purpose of the organization;

"(b) Information identifying the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the subject of the special session and indicating in which country or countries they are carried out;

"(c) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international levels;

"(d) Copies of annual or other reports of the organization, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;

"(e) A list of the members of the governing body of the organization and their countries of nationality;

"(f) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names or organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;

"(g) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization;

The bureau of the preparatory committee should submit by 19 February 2001 to the members of the preparatory committee a list of partners that have submitted their applications. The list should contain information on each partner's competence and relevance to the subject of the special session. The second session of the Preparatory Committee will decide on a no-objection basis regarding the accreditation of these partners;

"3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate widely all available information on accreditation procedures for the special session;

"4. *Decides* that arrangements set out above containing accreditation to the special session will in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

"III. Action at the local, national and regional levels

"1. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen broad-based, participatory, gender-balanced national habitat committees or similar consultative mechanisms to review and report on local and national plans of action, and through consultative mechanisms to coordinate and support further the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local and national levels;

"2. *Urges* States to focus their assessment and monitoring of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local, national and regional levels on key commitments related to policies and methods of evaluation, and recommends that States identify best practices, including enabling policies, legislation and exemplary plans of action, in implementing the Habitat Agenda in a gender-sensitive way, that they promote research in low-cost building technology for affordable housing and that they support the transfer of all such knowledge to ensure sustainability;

"3. *Urges* the regional commissions, within their mandates and in cooperation with the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and other regional intergovernmental organizations and banks, to organize one consultation in each region, requests that each regional consultation produce a report for the consideration of the preparatory committee at its second session, and invites Governments and other donors in a position to do so to support such activities, to the extent that the costs are not covered in the regular budget of the Centre;

"IV. Partnership and the role of civil society

"*Encourages* Member States to integrate contributions made by different partner groups towards further implementation of the Habitat Agenda in their national reports;

"V. Monitoring and assessment

"1. *Encourages* Member States and Habitat Agenda partners to provide support for the periodic preparation of the *Global Report on Human Settlements* and the *State of the World's Cities* report in order to raise awareness of human settlements and to provide information on urban conditions and trends around the world;

"2. *Recommends* that the Commission on Human Settlements pursue agreement by all Member States on a pool of common and easy-to-measure indicators applicable for national reporting and evaluation;

"3. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations organizations and agencies and other development partners to support the efforts of national Governments to coordinate data collection and analysis, and to develop a monitoring system at the local level on sustainable human settlements, with appropriate strengthening at all levels;

"4. *Encourages* all Governments and partners to submit to the Secretariat examples of enabling urban policies and legislation related to key items selected for country reporting, to enable the Secretariat to combine best practices, enabling policies legislation and action plans;

"VI. International cooperation

"1. *Requests* the preparatory committee, at its second substantive session, to prepare a draft declaration on human settlements in the new millennium;

"2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to report to the special session on the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, 'Adequate shelter for all' and 'Sustainable human settlements development', as well as on the actions and achievements of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign for Urban Governance;

"3. *Calls upon* the international community to support developing countries in the preparatory process for the special session, the second substantive session of the preparatory committee and the special session itself;

"4. *Requests* the international community to support urban poverty eradication in developing countries as well as reconstruction programmes following conflicts and natural disasters in order to allow affected countries to effectively implement the Habitat Agenda."

3. At the 41st meeting, on 6 December, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft resolution also entitled "Scope to be covered by the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/55/L.53), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.12.

4. At the same meeting, the representative of China orally corrected the draft resolution by adding the words "non-governmental organizations" in section II, paragraph 1, after the words "local authorities".

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.53 as orally corrected (see para. 13, draft resolution I).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53, draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.12 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

B. Draft resolutions A/C.2/55/L.13 and A/C.2/55/L.54

7. At the 27th meeting, on 26 October, the representative of Nigeria, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/55/L.13), which read:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/177 of 16 December 1996, 52/190 of 18 December 1997, 53/180 of 15 December 1998, 54/207 of 22 December 1999 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999 and agreed conclusions 2000/1 of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),

"*Noting with concern* that despite efforts to mobilize the extrabudgetary resources to defray the costs of participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to the sessions of the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and the special session itself in June 2001, as requested in paragraph 14 of resolution 53/180, the response has not been feasible,

"*Taking note* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on its first substantive session (8-12 May 2000),

"*Also taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of that Habitat Agenda,

"1. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further strengthen the Centre, through the provision of requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including by proposing additional regular budget resources and sufficient human resources, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/242 of 28 July 1999, for the consideration of the Assembly, with due regard for proper United Nations budgetary procedures;

"3. *Decides* that the special session shall be held from 6 to 8 June 2001 at United Nations Headquarters;

"4. *Decides* that the provisional agenda shall include the following items:

"(a) Review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

"(b) Further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

"(c) A declaration on cities and human settlements in the new millennium;

"5. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and in the meantime to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

"6. *Decides* to defray the cost of the participation of one governmental representative from each least developed country in the meetings of the preparatory committee and the special session itself through the use of extrabudgetary resources and, in the event that those resources prove to be insufficient, requests the Secretary-General to consider all other options;

"7. *Reiterates* its invitation to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session;

"8. *Welcomes* the launch of the Cities Alliance initiative by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the World Bank to effectively implement the Cities without Slums programme of action, as part of the efforts to achieve the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, 'Adequate shelter for all' and 'Sustainable human settlements development in an urbanized world', requests the Executive Director of the Centre to take a leadership and coordinating role in these initiatives, and urges Cities Alliance to include national Governments of developing countries as well as relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies to take part in these initiatives in order to make them an effective tool in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

"9. *Requests* the preparatory committee and the special session to take into account the outcome of the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system;

"10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a report on the special session;

"11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled 'Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic'."

8. At the 41st meeting, on 6 December, the Chairman of the Committee introduced a draft resolution also entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)" (A/C.2/55/L.54), which he submitted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.13.

9. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee made a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution (see A/C.2/55/SR.41).

10. Also at the same meeting, the representative of China orally corrected the draft resolution by adding the word "other" in operative paragraph 5 (c) before the words "human settlements".

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.54 as orally corrected (see para. 13, draft resolution II).

12. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54, draft resolution A/C.2/55/L.13 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendations of the Second Committee

13. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Draft resolution I
Scope to be covered by the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 218 of the Habitat Agenda[1] and its resolutions 51/177 of 16 December 1996 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and 53/180 of 15 December 1998 in which it decided that its special session for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the Conference would be held in June 2001 and that the Commission on Human Settlements should serve as the preparatory committee for the special session,

Taking into account its resolutions 54/208 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999 on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on the follow-up to the Conference,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Settlements resolutions 17/1 and 17/14 of 14 May 1999 on the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and on the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[2]

Taking note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the preparatory committee for the special session on its first substantive session,[3]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[4]

I. Outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda

1. *Confirms* that the special session should result in:

(a) Reconfirmation of the goals and commitments of the Habitat Agenda[1] and review of the status of implementation, including the identification of progress, gaps, obstacles and challenges;

(b) The setting of global priorities for future action;

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8), annex I, sect. A.

[3] A/55/121.

[4] A/55/83-E/2000/62.

2. *Emphasizes* the role of the Commission on Human Settlements, as a standing body of the Economic and Social Council, as a central monitoring and coordinating body within the United Nations system for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Also emphasizes* the existing role of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) in supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

4. *Further emphasizes*, while recognizing that the implementation of the Habitat Agenda is the sovereign right and responsibility of each State, that international cooperation as stipulated in the Agenda remains an important component in the implementation of the Agenda;

II. Arrangements regarding participation of Habitat Agenda partners and observers in the special session

1. *Decides* that representatives of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and other Habitat Agenda partners may make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole and in the thematic committee of the special session on the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

2. *Also decides* that, given the time available, a limited number of representatives of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and other Habitat Agenda partners may also make statements in the debate in plenary meeting, and requests the President of the General Assembly to submit the list of selected Habitat Agenda partners to the Member States in a timely manner for approval and to ensure that the selection of speakers is made on an equal and transparent basis, taking into account the geographical representation and diversity of Habitat Agenda partners;

3. *Further decides* that observers may make statements in the debate in plenary meeting in accordance with the established rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* that arrangements concerning the accreditation and participation of Habitat Agenda partners in the special session shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

III. Arrangements regarding accreditation of Habitat Agenda partners to the special session

1. *Decides* that accreditation to the special session shall be open to:

(a) Habitat Agenda partners that were accredited to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II);

(b) Non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, with the exception of those whose application for consultative status with the Council has been rejected or whose consultative status has been withdrawn or suspended;

2. *Also decides* that accreditation of other interested and relevant Habitat Agenda partners that were not accredited to Habitat II should be considered by the

preparatory committee, provided that those partners submit to the committee composed of the bureau of the preparatory committee and the Secretariat by 9 February 2001 an application for accreditation containing the following information:

(a) The purpose of the organization;

(b) Information identifying the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the subject of the special session and indicating in which country or countries they are carried out;

(c) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international levels;

(d) Copies of annual or other reports of the organization, with financial statements and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;

(e) A list of the members of the governing body of the organization and their country of nationality;

(f) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names or organizations that are members and their geographical distribution;

(g) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization;

and further decides that the bureau of the preparatory committee should submit by 19 February 2001 to the preparatory committee at its second session a list of partners that have submitted their application containing information on each partner's competence and relevance to the subject of the special session, and that the preparatory committee at its second session shall decide on a no-objection basis regarding the accreditation of those partners;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate widely all available information on accreditation procedures for the special session;

4. *Decides* that the arrangements set out above concerning accreditation to the special session shall in no way create a precedent for other special sessions of the General Assembly;

IV. Action at the local, national and regional levels

1. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen broad-based, participatory, gender-balanced national habitat committees or similar consultative mechanisms to review and report on local and national plans of action and, through consultative mechanisms, to coordinate and support further the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local and national levels;

2. *Urges* States to focus their assessment and monitoring of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda at the local, national and regional levels on key commitments related to policies and methods of evaluation, and recommends that States identify best practices, including enabling policies, legislation and exemplary plans of action, in implementing the Habitat Agenda in a gender-sensitive way, that they promote research on low-cost building technology for

affordable housing and that they support the transfer of all such knowledge to ensure sustainability;

3. *Confirms* that the special session should facilitate sharing views on local, national and regional experiences in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

V. Partnership and the role of civil society

1. *Encourages* Member States to integrate contributions made by different partner groups towards further implementation of the Habitat Agenda in their national reports and to consider the inclusion of partner groups in broad-based, gender-balanced national delegations;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the preparatory committee at its second session on the activities of the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities;

VI. Monitoring and assessment

1. *Encourages* Member States and Habitat Agenda partners to provide support for the preparation of the *Global Report on Human Settlements* and the *State of the World's Cities* report on a biennial basis so as to raise awareness of human settlements and to provide information on urban conditions and trends around the world;

2. *Recommends* that the Commission on Human Settlements pursue agreement by all Member States on a pool of common and easy-to-measure indicators applicable for national reporting and evaluation;

3. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations organizations and agencies and other development partners to support the efforts of national Governments to coordinate data collection and analysis and to develop a monitoring system at the local level on sustainable human settlements, with appropriate strengthening at all levels;

4. *Encourages* all Governments and partners to submit to the Secretariat examples of enabling urban policies and legislation relating to key items selected for country reporting to allow the Secretariat to combine best practices, enabling policies legislation and action plans;

VII. International cooperation

1. *Requests* the preparatory committee, at its second session, to prepare a draft declaration on cities and other human settlements in the new millennium;

2. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to report to the special session on the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development, as well as on the actions and achievements of the Global Campaign for Secure Tenure and the Global Campaign for Urban Governance;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to support developing countries in the preparatory process for the special session, the second session of the preparatory committee and the special session itself;

4. *Requests* the international community to support urban poverty eradication in developing countries as well as reconstruction programmes following conflicts and natural disasters in order to allow affected countries to implement the Habitat Agenda effectively.

Draft resolution II
Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/162 of 20 December 1993, 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 51/177 of 16 December 1996, 52/190 of 18 December 1997, 53/180 of 15 December 1998, 54/207 of 22 December 1999 and 54/209 of 22 December 1999,

Recalling Economic and Social Council decision 1999/281 of 30 July 1999 agreed conclusions 2000/1 of the Economic and Social Council concerning the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)[5] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[6]

Acknowledging the efforts made to secure extrabudgetary resources to defray the costs of the participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the sessions of the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and the special session itself in June 2001, as requested in paragraph 14 of resolution 53/180, and noting with concern that the response has not been adequate,

Taking note of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements acting as the preparatory committee for the special session on its first substantive session, held at Nairobi from 8 to 12 May 2000,[7]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda,[8]

1. *Welcomes* the appointment of the new Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat);

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider further strengthening of the Centre through the provision of the requisite support and stable, adequate and predictable financial resources, including by proposing additional regular budget resources and sufficient human resources, as envisaged by the General Assembly in its resolutions 52/220 of 22 December 1997 and 53/242 of 28 July 1999, for the

[5] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3), chap. V, para. 6.
[6] Resolution 55/2.
[7] A/55/121.
[8] A/55/83-E/2000/62.

consideration of the Assembly, with due regard for proper United Nations budgetary procedures;

3. *Decides* that the special session shall be held from 6 to 8 June 2001 at United Nations Headquarters in New York;

4. *Also decides* that the special session shall have a plenary, an ad hoc committee of the whole and a thematic committee, the details of which will be worked out by the preparatory committee at its second session;

5. *Decides* that the provisional agenda shall include the following items:

(a) Review and appraisal of progress made in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[9]

(b) Further actions and initiatives for overcoming obstacles to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

(c) A declaration on cities and other human settlements in the new millennium;

6. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to participate in the special session at the highest political level possible and, in the meantime, to continue to extend support to the preparatory process;

7. *Also reiterates its invitation* to States members of the specialized agencies of the United Nations that are not Members of the United Nations, as well as Palestine, in their capacity as observers, to participate in the special session in accordance with the established rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

8. *Invites* other entities having a standing invitation to participate in the United Nations as observers to participate in the special session in accordance with the established rules and procedures of the General Assembly;

9. *Decides* to invite the footnoted associate members[10] of the regional commissions to participate as observers in the special session and its preparatory process, subject to the rules of the General Assembly;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider defraying the costs not covered by General Assembly resolution 1798 (XVII) of 11 December 1962 of the participation of one governmental representative from each least developed country in the special session and the cost of their participation in the second session of the preparatory committee through the use of extrabudgetary resources and, in the event that those resources prove to be insufficient, requests the Secretary-General to seek extrabudgetary funding from all possible sources;

11. *Calls upon* all States in a position to do so to make voluntary financial contributions to the Secretariat to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and their civil society partners to prepare adequately for and be fully involved in, the preparatory process and the special session itself;

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[9] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[10] American Samoa, Anguilla, Aruba, British Virgin Islands, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Guam, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, New Caledonia, Niue, Puerto Rico and United States Virgin Islands.

12. *Reiterates its invitation* to all relevant organs, funds and programmes, as well as the agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, to continue to contribute to and be actively involved in the preparatory process and the special session;

13. *Welcomes* the launching of the Cities Alliance initiative by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) and the World Bank to effectively implement the Cities without Slums programme of action as part of the efforts to achieve the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, requests the Executive Director of the Centre to take a leadership and coordinating role in this initiative, and urges the Cities Alliance to include national Governments of developing countries as well as relevant United Nations organizations and specialized agencies in this initiative;

14. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) to report to the special session on the Cities Alliance initiative, including on its contribution to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

15. *Requests* the preparatory committee and the special session to take into account the outcome of the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of the Habitat Agenda within the United Nations system;[11]

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-sixth session a report on the special session;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session an item entitled "Implementation of the Habitat Agenda and outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on this topic".

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[11] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3), chap. V.